



COUNTY OF ERIE

MARK POLONCARZ

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH

Subject: **Positive COVID-19 Test**

You have been notified that you or your child tested positive for COVID-19 either by your medical provider, the Erie County Department of Health (ECDOH) or you performed an at home test. Due to the dramatic increase in COVID-19 cases, contact tracing is being limited to high risk individuals. This letter is to ensure that you are aware of your or your child's positive COVID-19 status and to provide isolation guidance. Information on how to isolate and the entire New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) guidance as described below can be found at erie.gov/IQ.

Isolation Guidance for Healthcare or Critical Workforce Employees

As per NYSDOH, if your employer allows, you may return to work after day 5 of your isolation period (where day zero is defined as either date of symptom onset if symptomatic or date of collection of your positive test if you have no symptoms) if:

- You are a Health Care Worker or a Critical Workforce Employee AND
- You are fully vaccinated (e.g. completed 1 dose of Janssen or 2 doses of an mRNA vaccine (Pfizer or Moderna) at least 2 weeks before the day you became symptomatic or, if no symptoms, the day of collection of the positive specimen) AND
- You have no symptoms, or, if you had mild symptoms, you have been fever-free for at least 72 hours, other symptoms improving, do not have a runny nose, and have no more than a dry cough (no phlegm) AND
- You must be able to consistently and correctly wear a well-fitting disposable, non-woven face mask with no air gaps such as a KN95 or a 3-ply cloth mask over a medical mask (double masking) while at work AND
- You are not moderately to severely immunocompromised AND
- You agree that following 5 days of isolation you will continue to stay at home, take precautions to avoid household transmission, and observe other required elements of isolation during the time you are not at work for a 10-day period.

continued

Isolation Guidance for Non-Healthcare/Non-Critical Workforce Employees or Children

Symptomatic COVID-19 positive cases

As per NYSDOH, since you or your child tested positive for COVID-19 and have or have had COVID-symptoms, you or your child must:

- Isolate for 10 days from the first day after your onset of COVID-19 symptoms until after day 10 AND
- Be fever free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication AND
- All other COVID-19 symptoms must be improving.

Symptom-free COVID-19 positive cases

As per NYSDOH, since you or your child tested positive for COVID-19 and have not had COVID-19 symptoms, you will need to isolate for 10 days from the first day after your positive COVID-19 test until after day 10.

An “Affirmation of Isolation” that can be used as documentation for isolation release or for New York Paid Family Leave COVID-19 claims can be found on the Erie County website at erie.gov/IQ.

Fully vaccinated persons in your household do not need to quarantine. If persons in your household are not fully vaccinated, they will need to quarantine for 10 days from the last day of contact with you. Also, if there are children in your house that are in quarantine, please contact the school/daycare to report to them that your children are in quarantine. Documentation for quarantined individuals can be found on the Erie County website at erie.gov/IQ. It is strongly recommended that all exposed individuals get a COVID-19 test 5 to 7 days after their last exposure to the positive COVID-19 person or immediately if symptoms develop. You can schedule a COVID-19 test by calling the ECDOH at (716) 858-2929.

Please call the ECDOH at (716) 858-6669 ext. 013 if you have questions regarding your isolation.

Thank you for helping to keep our community healthy.

Erie County Department of Health
Office of Epidemiology and Disease Surveillance

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